List of political parties in Israel

Israel's political system is based on proportional representation and allows for a multi-party system with numerous parties represented in the 120-seat Knesset.

A typical Knesset includes many factions represented. This is because of the low election threshold required for a seat – 1 percent of the vote from 1949 to 1992, 1.5 percent from 1992 to 2003, 2 percent from 2003 to 2014, and 3.25 percent since 2015. In the 2015 elections, for instance, ten parties or alliances cleared the threshold, and five of them won at least ten seats. The low threshold, in combination with the nationwide party-list system, makes it all but impossible for a single party to win the 61 seats needed for a majority government. No party has ever won a majority of seats in an election, the most being 56, won by the Alignment grouping in the 1969 elections (the Alignment had briefly held a majority of seats before the elections, following its formation in January 1969).

As a result, while only four parties (or their antecedents) have ever led governments, all Israeli governments, as of 2024, have been coalitions comprising two or more parties.

Current parties

Parties represented in the Knesset

The following parties are represented following the 2022 election:

Party or alliance		Ideology	Political position	Symbol	Leader	Knesset	Status
Likud[a]		Zionism Conservatism National conservatism Right-wing populism	Right-wing	מחל ﻣﺣل	Benjamin Netanyahu	32 / 120	Government
Yesh Atid		Liberal Zionism Anti-clericalism Secularism Two-state solution	Centre[1]	פה ﻓﻪ	Yair Lapid	24 / 120	Opposition
Shas[a]		Religious Zionism[2] Sephardic and Mizrahi interests Haredi interests Religious conservatism Social conservatism	Social: Right-wing Fiscal: Centre-left	שס ﺷس	Aryeh Deri	11 / 120	Government
National Unity	Blue & White Israel Resilience	Zionism	Centre to centre-right	כן ﻛﻥ	Benny Gantz	8 / 120	Opposition
Mafdal – Religious Zionism[a]		Religious Zionism Ultra-conservatism Ultra-nationalism	Far-right[3]	ט ﻁ	Bezalel Smotrich	7 / 120	Government
United Torah Judaism[a]	Agudat Yisrael Degel HaTorah	Haredi-Ashkenazi interests Religious conservatism Social conservatism	Right-wing	ג ﺝ	Moshe Gafni	7 / 120	Government
Otzma Yehudit[a]		Kahanism Ultranationalism	Far-right		Itamar Ben-Gvir	6 / 120	Government
Yisrael Beiteinu		Revisionist Zionism Nationalism Conservatism Russian Jewish interests	Right-wing to far-right	ל ﻝ	Avigdor Lieberman	6 / 120	Opposition
United Arab List		Islamism Conservatism		עם ﻋﻡ	Mansour Abbas	5 / 120	Opposition
Hadash–Ta'al	Hadash (Maki) Ta'al	Israeli Arab interests Secularism Progressivism	Left-wing	ום ﻭﻡ	Ayman Odeh	5 / 120	Opposition
The Democrats[b]		Social democracy Zionism Two-state solution	Centre-left[4] to left-wing[5]		Yair Golan	4 / 120	Opposition
New Hope		Zionism Economic liberalism	Right-wing	ת ﺕ	Gideon Sa'ar	4 / 120	Government
Noam[a]		Religious Zionism Religious conservatism	Far-right	כ	Avi Maoz	1 / 120	Government

	Social conservatism Fundamentalism					

a. Part of the national camp.

b. Elected as Israeli Labor Party MKs. In July 2024, Labor merged with Meretz to form The Democrats.

New/expected party

- Bennett 2026

Other parties

The following parties do not have Knesset seats at present:

- Ahrayut
- Ale Yarok
- Am Shalem
- Ani Veata (Me and You) — The Israeli People's Party
- Arab Democratic Party
- Balad (held seats from 1996 to 2022)
- Bible Bloc
- Brit Olam
- Da'am Workers Party, Organization for Democratic Action
- Derekh Eretz
- Dor
- Eretz Hadasha
- Green Party
- HaYisraelim
- Ihud Bnei HaBrit (United Allies)
- Israel Hofsheet (Israel Free)[6]
- Kadima (held seats from 2005 to 2015)
- Koah HaKesef
- Koah LeHashpi'a
- Lazuz
- Leader

- Lehem
- Lev LaOlim
- Man's Rights in the Family Party
- Magen Yisrael (Shield of Israel)
- Mahane Yehuda — Royalist Party of Israel
- Meimad (held seats between 1999 and 2009 as part of the One Israel alliance)
- New Horizon
- New Right
- Or
- Piratim — The Pirate Party of Israel
- Rappeh — a political party protesting COVID restrictions.[7]
- Shavim (Community) — Founded in 2018 as an LGBT party
- Telem[8]
- The Greens
- Tzeirim Boarim (Youths on Fire) — A big tent party founded in 2022 by Hadar Muchtar with the purpose of combating the rising cost of living.[9]
- Tzomet (held seats between 1987 and 1999; for the 1996 elections, it formed a joint *"National Camp List"* with Likud and Gesher)
- U'Bizchutan — founded in 2015 as an ultra-Orthodox Jewish women's party [10]
- Yachad
- Yisrael Hazaka
- Yisrael HaMithadeshet
- Zehut

Former parties

Parties formerly represented in the Knesset

Party	First Knesset	Last Knesset	Notes	Ideology
Agriculture and Development	2nd	4th	Arab satellite list	Israeli Arab interest
Ahi	16th	17th	Breakaway from the National Religious Party, joined the National Union alliance (2006–2008), merged into Likud	Religious Zionism
Ahdut HaAvoda	2nd	5th	Merged into the Labor Party	Labor Zionism
Ahva	9th	9th	Breakaway from the Democratic Movement	
Alignment	6th	12th	Became the Labor Party	Labor Zionism
Aliya	14th	14th	Breakaway from Yisrael BaAliyah	
Arab Democratic Party	11th	13th	Breakaway from the Alignment, merged into the United Arab List	Israeli Arab interests
Arab List for Bedouin and Villagers	8th	8th	Arab satellite list; merged into the United Arab List (1977)	Israeli Arab interests
Atid	13th	13th	Breakaway from Yiud	Liberalism
Black Panthers	12th	12th	Breakaway from Hadash	
Centre Party	14th	15th	Breakaway from Likud, Tzomet and Labor Party	
Cooperation and Brotherhood	4th	7th	Arab satellite list	Israeli Arab interest
Cooperation and Development	6th	6th	Arab satellite list; merger of Cooperation and Brotherhood and Progress and Development, demerged soon after	Israeli Arab interest
Dash	9th	9th	Disbanded into the Democratic Movement, Shinui, and Ya'ad	
Democratic Choice	15th	15th	Breakaway from Yisrael BaAliyah, merged into Meretz-Yachad	
Democratic List for Israeli Arabs	2nd	3rd	Arab satellite list	Israeli Arab interest
Democratic Movement	9th	9th	Emerged from the break-up of Dash	
Development and Peace	9th	9th		
Druze Faction	6th	6th	Breakaway from Cooperation and Brotherhood, merged into Progress and Development	
Faction independent of Ahdut HaAvoda	2nd	2nd	Breakaway from Mapam, merged into Mapai	

Party	First Knesset	Last Knesset	Notes	Ideology
Fighters' List	1st	1st		
Free Centre	6th	8th	Breakaway from Herut in 6th Knesset, breakaway from Likud in 8th Knesset	
Gahal	5th	7th	Became Likud	
General Zionists	1st	4th	Merged into the Liberal Party	
Gesher	13th	15th	Breakaway from Likud, merged back into Likud	
Gesher – Zionist Religious Centre	10th	10th	Breakaway from National Religious Party, merged back into NRP	
Geulat Yisrael	10th	10th	Breakaway from Agudat Yisrael	
HaOlim	16th	16th	Breakaway from Shinui, merged into Yisrael Beiteinu	
Hapoel HaMizrachi	2nd	2nd	Merged into the National Religious Party	
Hebrew Communists	1st	1st	Breakaway from Maki, merged into Mapam	
Herut	1st	5th	Merged into Gahal	
Herut – The National Movement	14th	15th	Breakaway from Likud, joined National Union alliance, ran unsuccessfully in the following two elections and merged back into Likud	Revisionist Zionism
HaTzeirim	14th	14th	Breakaway from the Centre Party, merged into Shinui	
Independent Liberals	5th	9th	Breakaway from the Liberal Party, merged into the Alignment	
Independent Socialist Faction	8th	8th	Breakaway from Ya'ad – Civil Rights Movement	
Jewish–Arab Brotherhood	6th	6th	Breakaway from Progress and Development, merged into Cooperation and Brotherhood	
The Jewish Home	18th	23rd	Dissolved on 20 August 2023, Merged into National Religious Party–Religious Zionism	Religious Zionism
Justice for the Elderly	17th	17th	Breakaway from Gil, merged back into Gil	
Kach	11th	11th	Party banned	Religious Zionism, Kahanism
Labor	7th	25th	Formed by merger of Mapai, Ahdut HaAvoda, and Rafi, merged with Meretz in 2024 to form The Democrats	Labor Zionism, social democracy
Left Camp of Israel	9th	9th		
Left Faction	2nd	2nd	Breakaway from Mapam	
Lev	15th	15th	Breakaway from the Centre Party, merged into Likud	
Liberal Party	4th	5th	Merged into Gahal	
Maki (original)	1st	7th	Merged into Moked	

Party	First Knesset	Last Knesset	Notes	Ideology
Mapai	1st	5th	Merged into the Labor Party	
Mapam	1st	12th	Merged into Meretz	Socialist Zionism
Mekhora	14th	14th	Breakaway from Tzomet, merged into Moledet	
Meretz	13th	24th	Merger of Ratz, Mapam, Shinui. Merged with Israeli Labor Party to form The Democrats.	Labor Zionism, social democracy, leftism
Meri	6th	7th	Originally named HaOlam HaZeh – Koah Hadash (until 1973)	
Mizrachi	2nd	2nd	Merged into the National Religious Party	
Moked	7th	8th	Merged into the Left Camp of Israel	
Morasha	11th	11th		
Moria	12th	12th	Breakaway from Shas	
Movement for the Renewal of Social Zionism	10th	10th	Breakaway from Telem	
National Home	16th	16th	Breakaway from the Secular Faction	
National List	7th	9th	Merged into Likud	
National Religious Party	3rd	17th	Disbanded when The Jewish Home formed	Religious Zionism
New Liberal Party	12th	12th	Breakaway from Likud	
New Way	15th	15th	Breakaway from the Centre Party	
Noy	16th	16th	Breakaway from One Nation, merged into Kadima	
Ometz	9th	11th	Breakaway from Likud, merged into Telem, broke away again, merged into Likud	
One Israel (1980)	9th	9th	Breakaway from Likud	
One Israel	15th	15th	Joint list of Labor Party, Meimad and Gesher	
One Nation	14th	16th	Merged into the Labor Party	
Poalei Agudat Yisrael	2nd	9th		
Progress and Development	4th	8th	Arab satellite list; merged into the United Arab List (1977)	
Progress and Work	2nd	3rd	Arab satellite list	
Progressive List for Peace	11th	12th		
Progressive National Alliance	15th	15th	Breakaway from the United Arab List	
Progressive Party	1st	4th	Merged into the Liberal Party	
Rafi	5th	6th	Breakaway from Mapai, merged into the Labor Party	

Party	First Knesset	Last Knesset	Notes	Ideology
Ratz	8th	12th	Merged into Meretz	
Religious Torah Front	3rd	4th	Broke up into Agudat Yisrael and Poalei Agudat Yisrael	
Secular Faction	16th	16th	Breakaway from Shinui	
Sephardim and Oriental Communities	1st	2nd	Merged into the General Zionists	
Shinui	9th	16th	Majority of representatives split to form Secular Faction	
Shlomtzion	9th	9th	Merged into Likud	
Tami	10th	11th	Breakaway from the National Religious Party, merged into the Likud	
Tehiya	9th	12th	Breakaway from Likud	
Telem	9th	10th	Breakaway from Likud	
The Right Way	17th	17th	Breakaway from Justice for the Elderly	
The Third Way	13th	14th	Breakaway from the Labor Party	
Tkuma	14th	17th	Breakaway from the National Religious Party, joined the National Union alliance in 1999, disbanded in 2008.	Religious Zionism
Tzalash	16th	16th	Breakaway from Shinui	
United Arab List (1977)	8th	9th	Merger of the Arab List for Bedouins and Villagers and Progress and Development (not related to contemporary United Arab List)	
United Religious Front	1st	1st	Broke up into Agudat Yisrael, Poalei Agudat Yisrael, Mizrachi and Hapoel HaMizrachi	
Unity for Peace and Immigration	12th	12th	Breakaway from the Alignment, merged into Likud	
Unity Party	9th	9th	Breakaway from Dash and the Left Camp of Israel	
WIZO	1st	1st	WIZO incorporated the Union of Hebrew Women for Equal Rights in Eretz Israel (he), also known as the Women's Union, which had won seats in the Old Yishuv elections.	
Ya'ad	9th	9th	Emerged from the break-up of Dash	
Ya'ad – Civil Rights Movement	8th	8th	Merger of Ratz and one other MK, split into Ratz and the Independent Socialist Faction	
Yachad	11th	11th	Merged into the Alignment	
Yemenite Association	1st	2nd	Merged into the General Zionists but broke away later	
Yisrael BaAliyah	14th	16th	Merged into Likud	
Yiud	13th	13th	Breakaway from Tzomet	

Parties that failed to win seats in the Knesset

Name	Letter	Political position	Notes
Hatzohar	ג	Right-wing	Original Revisionist Zionist party, disbanded after failing to cross the electoral threshold in the 1949 elections.
Popular Arab Bloc	ת	Left-wing	Arab satellite list that ran in the 1949 elections. Affiliated with Mapam
Tafnit	פ	Centre	Ran in the 2006 elections.
Women's Party	נס	Centre-left to Left-wing	Ran in the 1977 elections.
Yamin Yisrael	יד	Right-wing	Broke away from Moledet, another right-wing party, prior to the 1996 elections, but failed to cross the electoral threshold.
The Arab List - The Center	צח	Centre	Arab satellite list that ran in the 1955 elections. Affiliated with General Zionists

Family tree of parties in Israel

Left-wing and Labor Zionist [show]	**Secular right and centre** [show]	**Religious Zionist** [show]

Name changes

The following parties changed their names

- *Banai* became *Tehiya-Bnai*, then Tehiya
- *Emunim* became Tkuma
- *Equality in Israel-Panthers* became the Unity Party
- *Flatto-Sharon* became Development and Peace
- *Hitkhabrut* became the *Renewed Religious National Zionist Party*, then Ahi
- *Israel in the Centre* became the Centre Party
- *Meretz* became *Yachad*, then *Meretz-Yachad*, then Meretz again
- *Movement for Change and Initiative* became Shinui
- *Mizrachi-Hapoel HaMizrachi* became the *National Religious Front*, then National Religious Party, then The Jewish Home
- *National Responsibility* became Kadima
- *National Unity - National Progressive Alliance* became Progressive National Alliance
- *Parliamentary Group of Bronfman and Tsinker* became *Makhar*, then the Democratic Choice

- *Party for the Advancement of the Zionist Idea* became the New Liberal Party
- *Rafi – National List* became Ometz
- *Rakah* became Maki
- *Secular Faction* became Hetz
- *Social-Democratic Faction* became the Independent Socialist Faction
- *Shinui - Centre Party* became *Shinui - the Secular Movement*, then *Shinui - Party for the Secular and the Middle Class*, but is generally known as Shinui

Zionist youth movements

Name	Meaning	Movement	Association	Notes
Betar	League of Joseph Trumpeldor	Revisionist	Likud	Historically associated with Herut, and now Likud.
Bnei Akiva	Sons of Akiva	Religious	The Jewish Home	Historically associated with Mafdal, and now The Jewish Home.
Habonim Dror	The Builders of Freedom	Labor	Labor Party	Associated with the Labor Zionism and the United Kibbutz Movement, and unofficially with the Israeli Labor Party.
Hashomer Hatzair	The Young Guard	Labor	Meretz	Associated with the left faction of Labor Zionism, historically associated with Mapam and the Kibbutz Artzi movement, and unofficially with Meretz.
HaNoar HaOved VeHaLomed	The Working and Learning Youth	Labor	Labor Party	Associated with the Labor Zionist movement, Histadrut, and unofficially with the Israeli Labor Party.
Meretz Youth	Meretz Youth	Labor	Meretz	Youth wing of Meretz (under 18), now associated with The Democrats
Noar HaAvoda	Labor Youth	Labor	Labor Party	Young-wing of the Israeli Labor Party (under 18), now associated with The Democrats.
Noar Halhud HaLeumi	National Union Youth	Religious	Religious Zionist	Youth wing of the Religious Zionist Party.
Noar HaGvaot	Hilltop Youth	Religious	Otzma Yehudit	Historically associated with Kach, and its various successor parties.
Noar Yesh Atid	Yesh Atid Youth	Liberal	Yesh Atid	Youth wing of Yesh Atid (under 18).
HaMahanot HaOlim	The Immigrants Camps	Labor	None	Associated with the Labor Zionist movement.
HaNoar HaTzioni	The Zionist Youth	Liberal	None	Historically associated with the General Zionists.
Ariel	Lion of God	Religious	Religious Zionist	Split from Bnei Akiva, unofficially associated with Religious Zionist Party.
HaNoar HaDati HaOved VeHaLomed	The Religious Working and Studying Youth	Religious	None	Founded in 1952, historically associated with Hapoel HaMizrachi.
Noar HaLikud	The Likud Youth	Revisionist	Likud	Youth wing of Likud (under 18).
Young Meretz	Young Meretz	Labor	Meretz	Young-wing of Meretz (18-35).

See also

- Politics of Israel
- List of political parties by country

- Liberalism in Israel
- Labor Zionism
- Revisionist Zionism

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External links

- Parties participating in the 2006 elections (https://www.knesset.gov.il/elections17/eng/list/ListIndex_eng.asp) Knesset website (in English)
- All parliamentary groups (https://www.knesset.gov.il/faction/eng/FactionListAll_eng.asp) Knesset website (in English)